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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE
MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COUNCIL

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Monday, April 17, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard Second Floor Conference Room B, Cannon Building Dover, Delaware
MINUTES TO BE APPROVED:	

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pat Gallagher, CPM, Chair, Council Member
Kathleen McCarthy, CNM, Council Member
Susan DiNatale, CPM, Council Member
Shannon Burdeshaw, CPM, Council Member
Philip Shlossman, MD, Physician Council Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Jennifer Singh, Deputy Attorney General
Devashree Brittingham, Executive Director

ALSO PRESENT

Marilee Pinkleton, CPM

MEMBERS ABSENT

Francis Montone, MD, Physician Council Member

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Gallagher called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Council reviewed the January 30, 2017 minutes for approval. Dr. Shlossman moved, seconded by Ms. McCarthy to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Application(s) for Licensure as a Certified Professional Midwife

There were no applications for Certified Professional Midwives for the Council to review.

Review Application(s) for Licensure as a Certified Midwife

There were no applications for Certified Midwives for the Council to review.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Ms. Gallagher wanted to discuss and issues she was experiencing with the State's Newborn Screening test. Currently, the state bills the midwife for the cost of the screening and the midwife must either pass that cost on to her clients or incur the cost herself. The cost of the screening is currently \$135.00. Ms. McCarthy advised that the Council's regulations require the Newborn Screening test to be offered and completed unless refused. If the client refuses they must sign a waiver, however Ms. McCarthy strongly advised against that practice as the screening is a tool to identify many treatable ailments before they cause greater harm down the road for the newborn. Ms. McCarthy advised she was aware that the state program was working with vendors to reduce the cost and increase the participation but at this time the fee for the screening was being charged to the individual midwife.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Pinkleton addressed the Council with her concerns of accessibility to new born hearing screenings in the central Delaware (Dover/Smyrna) area. Ms. Pinkleton advised she was experiencing issues with her clients who are not able to get access to new born hearing tests because their baby was not born in a hospital. Ms. Gallagher advised she could do the hearing tests for the central Delaware area if providers wished to contact her. Ms. McCarthy cautioned against that as it puts a large burden on Ms. Gallagher especially if she is unavailable for any period of time.

Dr. Shlossman advised that Christiana Care will do new born hearing tests even if the baby was not born at the hospital. The hearing tests can be done at the outpatient procedure office.

Ms. McCarthy suggested to Ms. Pinkleton to get the equipment to do the hearing test and share the cost among the midwives in her area that also need the service. She suggested a minimal fee be charged for the service, replacement of equipment and maintenance. She suggested Ms. Pinkleton call the new born screening office for state assistance to purchase the equipment. Ms. McCarthy advised that the Birth Center in North Wilmington will also do hearing screens for newborns, regardless of where the baby was born, for a fee.

Ms. Gallagher said she will contact Bayhealth for their assistance with hearing screenings for the central Delaware area. Ms. DiNatale's experience was that Bayhealth would not do hearing screenings for babies who were not born at the hospital.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, July 17, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room B, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard in Dover.

Midwifery Advisory Council of the
Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline
April 17, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gallagher moved, seconded by Ms. DiNatale to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Devashree Brittingham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'B'.

Devashree Brittingham, MBA
Executive Director